

SEATTLE'S CENTRAL WATERFRONT PLAN

"Let's reconnect Seattle to its front porch!"

GREG NICKELS, Mayor of Seattle



We all know something needs to be done about the Alaskan Way Viaduct. It poses a very real threat to public safety, the local economy, and the region's entire infrastructure. As a city, we face many options, and together we'll make the right choice for our community. Whatever that choice may be, it presents us, as a city, with an unprecedented opportunity and responsibility to re-think our waterfront: Seattle's "front porch."



Major projects are appearing on the waterfront and adjacent areas: a new aquarium, an expanded ferry terminal, a public sculpture park, multi-family housing. These diverse uses must be integrated with each other as well as other uses to ensure a unified waterfront community. How can we ensure the waterfront connects these uses and takes advantage of the full potential of this investment?



With increasing activity on the waterfront and in adjacent areas, more people will be using the limited capacity of this constrained corridor. We need to strike a comfortable balance between people and space in order to maintain the area's viability.



As the Port of Seattle continues to restructure its operations, there may be more big changes ahead for the waterfront. What will the future bring? And more importantly, what can we do to ensure that the future brings something which will benefit our big-city, small-town home?

A "ONCE-IN-A-CENTURY" OPPORTUNITY...

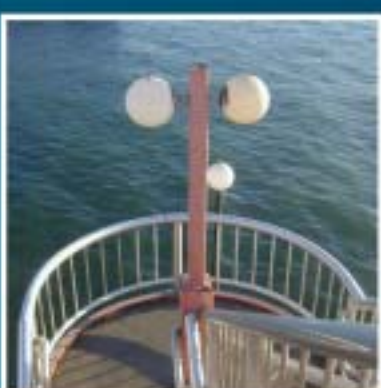
- to reconnect Seattle to its front porch
 - *"to reunite the urban fabric of the city with the central waterfront"* – Mayor Nickels
 - to connect Pike Place Market and other neighborhoods to the water
- to create a vital, active waterfront for all: local and regional residents, workers, tourists, and visitors
- to retain and enhance an efficient transportation corridor/regional transportation hub
- to realize the waterfront's enormous economic potential
- to accommodate more of the activities needed to support the State Growth Management Act
- to enhance the quality of the natural shoreline environment, improving the quality of life for salmon and other sea life
- to capitalize and promote a valuable regional resource



Investment is needed: investment of time, money, and other resources. This commitment to the waterfront will ensure that investments are made wisely.



We need to set an energetic agenda, and pursue this once-in-a-century opportunity collectively and with enthusiasm. The Alaskan Way Viaduct is going to change one way or another, and the waterfront is bound to change with it. Let's make sure it changes for the better. Let's reconnect Seattle to its front porch.



City of Seattle • Greg Nickels, Mayor

“What do we need in our Waterfront Plan?”

- A vision of the waterfront's future, drawn from citizens of the Puget Sound region
- Clear statements about what the public wants to accomplish, and specific steps for achieving community goals
- A “blueprint” guiding the actions of everyone involved in waterfront development
- Funding strategies and implementation proposals
- Integration of diverse uses (trade/industry, recreation, tourism)
- A framework for development to ensure that future changes complement what we're doing now



“How do we make it happen?”

- Generate public enthusiasm and support
- Pursue funding
- Improve access
- Coordinate public improvements and private development activity
- Stay focused



Get Involved in Waterfront Planning!

The Department of Design, Construction and Land Use wants to ensure broad public participation in the waterfront planning effort. Forums are being planned to initiate public discussions on the project and specific waterfront issues. Afterwards, the public will be invited to participate in developing alternative visions for the waterfront's future.

Check the DCLU website (www.cityofseattle.net/dclu/centralwaterfront) to follow the project and get information on meetings and special events.

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“Why do we need a Plan?”

Over the years the waterfront has evolved from a frontier wilderness to a major economic center. It continues to fuel growth throughout the northwestern United States and beyond. The condition of the structurally-damaged Alaskan Way Viaduct and weakened seawall has thrust the waterfront into yet another major milestone in its evolution. How can we take advantage of this once-in-a-century opportunity and create a waterfront best suited to meet these changes and Seattle's various needs?

A plan for the waterfront will help us:

- Develop a community vision to guide the waterfront's ongoing evolution
- Elicit public input regarding wants, needs, and aspirations
- Reconnect and integrate the waterfront with the rest of the city
- Balance diverse functions of the waterfront area (transportation/housing/open space)
- Provide a distinct neighborhood identity for the waterfront
- Recognize and realize opportunities to make positive changes

